

ALABAMA

EMERGENCY GRAZING PLAN

For

***CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM
(CRP)***

LAND

General Purposes
EMERGENCY GRAZING PLAN FOR
CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP) LAND
Upon Approval
Through September 30, 2006

Proper management of grasses and legumes are important for your soil and water conservation program. They prevent erosion, and add fertility and organic material to the soil. They help the soil absorb more water, thus reducing runoff. Forages also provide grazing, hay and feeding and nesting areas for many birds and other wildlife.

Also, good management prolongs the life of desirable forage species and maintains or improves the quality and quantity of forage. A grazing system of one of the two following grazing methods may be used:

Continuous Stocking where livestock are allowed to graze at will: The number of livestock will have to be adjusted with a continuous stocking grazing method to prevent grazing closer than the minimum height of the key pasture plants.

Rotational Stocking: Used where livestock are rotated among two or more pastures in sequence with alternating periods of grazing and recovery. When the key forage species is grazed down to the minimum specified height, livestock are moved to another pasture.

Minimum Stubble Heights: Sufficient leaf growth must be maintained to assure that a healthy plant community capable of providing the desired level of erosion control remains after the grazing period ends. Livestock grazing will be deferred when needed to maintain the minimum stubble height. Stubble height is based on the average height of key forage

species for livestock grazing. Table 1 contains the minimum stubble heights for commonly grazed grasses and legumes in Alabama.

Wildlife Areas: When grazing CRP acreage, at least 25 percent of each field or contiguous fields must be left ungrazed for wildlife or graze no more than 75 percent of the stocking rate as specified by NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.

Grazing Period: Upon approval through September 30, 2006. Date is subject to change by the local FSA county committee.

Ineligible Acres: Land within 100 feet of a stream or other permanent water body.

Table 1

Minimum Stubble Heights for Commonly
Grazed Grasses and Legumes

Species	Minimum Stubble Height	
	Rotational Stocking	Continuous Stocking
	<u>inches</u>	<u>inches</u>
Bahiagrass	2	3
Bermudagrass, Hybrid	4	5
Bermudagrass, Common	2	3
Dallisgrass	3	4
Fescue, tall	3	4
Johnsongrass	10	15
Orchardgrass	3	4
Clover, all	2	3
Sericea	3	4